

ABSTRACT

A method is disclosed for operating a computer system in order to validate data stored in a plurality of data files in a database. Each of the data files have an associated file type and are arranged in a plurality of data stores in the database. At least one of the data files is a data dependent file which contains data dependent upon data in one or more other files of the data store. The method includes the steps of selecting a file locator which is associated with a respective one data store in the database, via the selected file locator identifying a first dependent file and identifying one or more other files on which said first file is dependent. For each identified file a first file reader is selected which is associated with the file type of the identified file. Via each selected first file reader a predetermined parameter of the identified file is determined. The method further includes the steps of comparing the predetermined parameter from the first file with that from the or each other file and responsive to the comparison step providing an output signal for each data file indicating whether the data file is valid.